

ICE

Many thanks
to services

-2-

SOQ

From
Afghanistan
to Barstow

-4-

Commissary Veterinarian

Your food
her priority

-6-

Insurgent Free

Keeping Iraqi
streets clean

-8 and 9-



Tune in
on cable
Channel 80

Check out the
Marine Corps
Web site:

<http://www.usmc.mil>

or the MCLB
Barstow Web site at:

<https://www.bam.usmc.mil/>



Photo by Rob Jackson

Children from the Child Development Center's toddler class eat a nourishing meal of ham and cheese sandwiches during their lunch time.

DoD child care named nation's #1 provider

Compiled by Rob Jackson
Public Affairs Specialist

Following a survey of U.S. child care centers, the National Association of Child Care Resources and Referral Agencies' report card, released March 1, found that Department of Defense child care centers scored better than all other state programs in the United States in every area rated.

The report card ranks every state and DoD child care program on 15 basic criteria related to the association's current child care center standards and oversight for a total of 150 points. DoD was ranked the highest at 117 points against an average score of 70 points.

The 15 areas DoD and the states were scored on include training requirements, quarterly inspections, licensing and staff-to-child ratio.

According to an announcement released by the NACCRRA, the quality of child care is important

because the health and safety of children are at stake and 90 percent of brain development occurs between birth and age five, which makes this time a critical period for child development. Yet, child care standards and oversight vary greatly by state.

Given the importance of quality child care for children, the NACCRRA reviewed state child care center policies and regulations and ranked the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the DoD based on key benchmarks to see how the states measured up. The results are shown on scorecards ranking state child care center standards, state child care oversight, and a combined score, ranking states on both standards and oversight.

The NACCRRA found that DoD child care system stands alone as a model for states. The DoD child care system ranked number one on the top 10 list of states with the best child care center standards and number one on

the top 10 list of states with the best oversight practices. Other than DoD, no state appears on both top 10 list.

Eight states and DoD addressed all 10 basic health and safety benchmarks including fire drills, administration of medication, prevention of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, diapering, hand-washing and safe playground surfaces.

Of the 15 categories the DoD and states were scored on, DoD was ranked first in every area.

"This (report) validates what we do as child care professionals, and provides recognition, as part of DoD, for a job well done," said an excited Theresa Meugniot, program administrator, Children, Youth and Teens Program, for MCLB Barstow's Child Development Center.

During her 24 years here, Meugniot has seen the many changes and continuous improvements in child care services. Knowing that Barstow's program

was a valuable contributor, DoD's overall standing is the payoff for their efforts.

The CDC staff is highly trained and continues to meet or exceed the training programs that are required and mandated to provide excellent care for the children.

"We (DoD) know several things about our early childhood programs. We know that; one, we're held up to be a model for the nation, and two, we're accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children," she said.

Meugniot also said of the announcement that the caregivers are not jumping up and saying "We're number one!"

"It would be nice, but don't have time because we're so busy doing what we do every day, which is taking care of the children, giving them high quality experiences and giving them a safe, loving, caring environment," she added with a smile.



Comments, questions or concerns files with the base Interactive Customer Service Evaluation system are automatically routed to service provider, and the service provider can respond directly. To access the ICE Web site, visit the MCLB Barstow Web site located at: www.mclbonline.barstow.usmc.mil and click the ICE logo.

This weeks' ICE comments focuses individuals and departments for providing outstanding service.

Customer's Comments:

Please recognize the efforts of **Lt. Senthill and his staff** for executing a contract in three days to bring the power back on-line after high winds blew down a tree resulting in power loss to some of the MCLB Barstow housing units. Senthill's immediate response

limited the disturbance to Base families while demonstrating his efficiency for getting things done at the ROICC office. Senthill has also demonstrated that even when he was thrust into the middle of the most complicated contractual and fire protection issues, he quickly grasped an understanding of situational details and executed a fair and reasonable solution. He is the first service member I worked with directly when I came to NAVFAC five months

ago, and he continues to impress me with his knowledge, diligence and dedication to his work at the ROICC.

I want to commend **Susan Durant** for going beyond the call of duty. I let my base vehicle registration lapse and needed it done ASAP so that I could be at work in a timely manner. She came to work early in order to help me, and I greatly appreciate her kindness and professional assistance.

Chaplain's Corner Inspiration for Amazing Grace

By **Lt. Tavis Long**
Base Chaplain

John's mother died when he was just seven years old, and the relatives passed him around for the next four years. When he was eleven, he decided to follow in his father's footsteps, and live a life at sea. He only had two years of formal schooling where he learned a little Latin, but he soon became disenchanted with life and turned his attention to a life of recklessness and rebellion.

By the time John was 19, his life seemed to have no direction or meaning. He was forced into service of the Royal Navy, sailing aboard the H.M.S Harwich. Since he did have two years of school, which was more than many of the other sailors, he was given the opportunity to excel aboard the vessel. He was skilled at the craft, but he decided the conditions in the Navy were too brutal and so he deserted the ship. He was found a few days later, and for his crimes was publicly flogged and demoted from midshipman to a common seaman.

Life seemed to increasingly worsen for John. Servitude in the Royal Navy on an eighteenth century man-of-war

was deplorable. John continued his wayward ways and could be found drunk much of the time living a horribly wicked lifestyle. The wealth of the slave trade fascinated John and he finally convinced the Navy captain to exchange him into service on a slave ship. However, life was no better aboard the slave ship. The slave ship took John to the coast of Sierra Leone where John himself was sold and became a slave on a plantation.

By 1748, John, beaten, dejected, bitter, and now in all aspects a cruel person, was rescued by a family friend who had sailed with John's father. John sailed with this new captain and eventually became the captain of a ship called the Greyhound. This too was a slave ship and John quickly became wealthy using the marketing of humans to line his pockets.

But John, in spite of his change in fortune, did not change his lifestyle. Although he was the captain, he still associated himself with the lowest of the



See **CHAPLAIN** Page 10

Just doing my job ...



Photo by Lance Cpl. Josh Carmona

Scott Kulasxa, store worker, base commissary, cleans green onions with cold water before they are ready to be sold to consumers. Kulasxa has been working at the commissary for 20 years, but has a total of 25 years of civil service under his belt.

Chapel Services

Catholic Mass
St. Joseph's Catholic Church
505 E. Mt. View Barstow
Sundays, 7:30 a.m. Misa En Espanol
9:30 - 11:30 a.m. English

Protestant Services
Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Jewish Services
Call 252-0148
for more information

Barstow Log

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California
Colonel Kenneth D. Enzor, Commanding Officer

Public Affairs Staff

Public Affairs Officer: Bill Bokholt
Public Affairs Chief: Gunnery Sgt. Shay Richardson
Public Affairs Specialist: Rob L. Jackson
Barstow Log Editor: Cpl. Nich R. Babb
Combat Correspondent: Cpl. Quentin Grogan
Combat Correspondent: Lance Cpl. Josh Carmona

The editorial content of this newspaper is prepared, edited and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California. Mailing address: Commanding Officer, Attn: Public Affairs, Box 110130, Barstow, CA 92311-5050. The Public Affairs Office is located in Building 204. Phones: (760) 577-6430, 577-6450, 577-6451, FAX 577-6350, DSN prefix 282. This newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of **BARSTOW LOG** are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the U.S. Marine Corps. **BARSTOW LOG** is published by Aerotech News, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Marine Corps, under exclusive written contract with Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the U.S. Marine Corps, or Aerotech News, of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

BARSTOW LOG is distributed every Thursday (or Wednesday preceding a holiday) 50 weeks a year. **BARSTOW LOG** is produced at Aerotech News in Lancaster, Calif. Printed circulation is 3,500.

For information on advertising in **BARSTOW LOG**, contact Paul Kinison of Aerotech News, phone: (661) 945-5634.

News Briefs

Pet Food Recall

Commissaries worldwide have been directed to remove some cat and dog food products based on a Food and Drug Administration warning issued Saturday.

There has been a small number of pet deaths reported as a result of the food.

The following Iams brand foods have been pulled from the base commissary's shelves:

- Dog food pouches chicken with gravy.
- Dog food pouches beef and gravy.
- Dog food pouches weight control chicken.
- Dog food meat variety pouches.
- Mighty Dog food brand's Dog Food variety 12 pack.

For questions, contact the Menu Foods Inc. company at 1-866-895-2708.

Water Recall

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued a warning advising consumers not to drink Jermuk brands of mineral water from Armenia.

FDA scientists say the recalled water, distributed nationally, might be contaminated with high levels of arsenic, which is a known cause of cancer.

FDA testing of the water revealed 500 to 600 micrograms of arsenic per liter, exceeding the FDA's standard for quality bottled water that allows no more than 10 micrograms of arsenic per liter.

Symptoms of acute arsenic exposure usually occur within several hours of consumption and include vomiting, diarrhea and stomach pain. Extended exposure can lead to cancer or death.

The green glass bottles being recalled carry labels that read "Jermuk Original Sparkling Natural Mineral Water Fortified With Natural Gas From The Spring," "Jermuk Sodium Calcium Bicarbonate and Sulphate Mineral Water."

Anyone who drank the water and have concerns are encouraged to consult a healthcare provider.

Leave Sharing Program

Krista Perez, Amaris Kanteena, Maintenance Center, and Kenneth Breckenridge, Fleet Support Division, have been affected by medical emergencies.

Anyone desiring to donate leave under the Leave Sharing Program may obtain a leave donor application through their department administrative office.

To donate or for more information, contact Margo Padilla at 577-7138, Lorinda Rognlie at 577-7099 or Edwin Wisemon at 577-7774.

Second Facility Council

Public Works has held its second Facility Council meeting for Fiscal Year 07.

The Facility Council approves or disapproves all requests for new construction on Base.

The following projects were approved by the council:

Bowling Alley, replace counter tops, install black lights and repaint walls.

Base Stables, install solar lights on boarding stables.

Environmental, install fence with slats as wind barrier.

For questions or concerns, contact the Public Works Officer, Capt. Teddy Gilmore, at 577-6369.

Yermo Paving Projects

'F' street from 13th st. to the railroad crossing will be closed for demolition and asphalt and concrete replacement until Wednesday on the Yermo Annex.

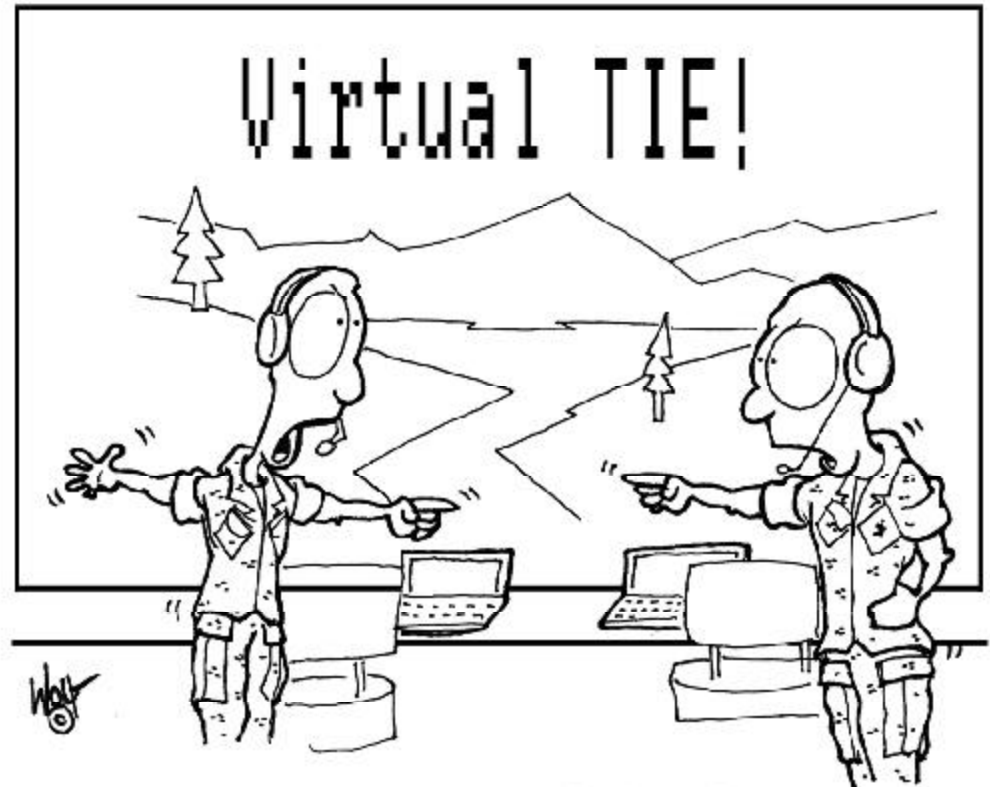
Utility lines will also be replaced around warehouses 401, 402, 403 and 404. This construction will divert traffic and relocate parking lots.

When driving in the construction zones, reduce speed and observe instructions from flagmen and construction signs. Employ-

Sempertoons

Created by Gunnery Sgt. Charles Wolf
USMC Active

I virtually got you first,...NO! WAY!
I virtually got you first,...NO!...I virtually got you first,
NO!,... I virtually got you first,



IT WILL NEVER END

WWW.SEMPERTOONS.COM

MYSFACE.COM/SEMPERTOON

ees should expect delays, and adjust time going to their work places accordingly.

For questions or concerns, contact Gio Galacgac at 577-5822 or Rich Tusing at 577-6438.

Identity Theft Scam

The FBI today is providing a warning to the public against an ongoing scheme involving jury service.

Be aware that individuals identifying themselves as U.S. court employees have been telephonically contacting citizens and advising them that they have been selected for jury duty.

These individuals ask to verify names and Social Security numbers, then ask for credit card numbers. If the request is refused, citizens are then threatened with fines.

The judicial system does not contact people via the tele-

phone and ask for personal information such as your Social Security number, date of birth or credit card numbers.

If you receive one of these phone calls, do not provide any personal or confidential information to these individuals.

This is an attempt to steal your identity by obtaining your name and Social Security number, and then the con-artists applying for credit or credit cards or other loans in your name. It is an attempt to defraud you.

If you have already been contacted, and have already given out your personal information, please monitor your account statements and credit reports, and contact your local FBI office.

Local FBI field office telephone numbers can be found in the front section of your local telephone directory or on www.fbi.gov.

For further information,

please review the warnings posted on the U.S. Courts website at www.uscourts.gov

Tax Returns

Taxpayers will have until April 17 to file their 2006 tax returns, as well as make payments for any taxes due this year.

April 15 falls on a Sunday, and the following day is Emancipation Day, which is a legal holiday in the District of Columbia. That is the reasoning for the extension.

Editor's Note

"News Briefs" are designed to disseminate information to the MCLB Barstow community. Any submissions to be used in the paper should be received Fridays by noon for the following week's issue. Submit briefs via e-mail to BSTW_PAOLIST@usmc.mil.

Afghanistan Vet. named Medical Clinic SOQ

By Cpl. Nich R. Babb
Combat Correspondent

It was a scorching hot day in the Afghanistan desert. The sand and mountains were seen all around, with the dry air cracking the faces of Marines and Corpsmen, just as it did to the ground beneath their feet. Their convoy of military vehicles and equipment came to a halt due to mechanical malfunctions, so that left little to do other than eat food and go to the bathroom.

That is what Hospitalman 3rd Class Michael Johnson, primary care technician and archive petty officer, branch medical clinic, did when his convoy stopped due to the lead vehicle breaking down.

Johnson said that during the break, he enjoyed his meal-ready-to-eat, and then got out of his vehicle to relieve himself. After taking about four or five steps though, a powerful force flung him a few feet through the air where he landed face first in the sand.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Josh Carmona

Hospitalman 3rd Class Michael Johnson, primary care technician and archive petty officer, Branch Medical Clinic, checks the blood pressure of a patient. Johnson was named the Sailor of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2007.

An improvised explosive device had detonated and knocked Johnson to the ground, he said. Fortunately, no

one was killed or maimed, but it did give him an unforgettable memory.

"Experiencing something like that kind of changes a person," Johnson said.

Johnson was still committed to his mission and purpose after almost having his life ended by an IED, he said. He cannot help but have a different outlook on life nowadays.

Before Johnson made his way over to Afghanistan, he spent his youth growing up and experiencing life in the Las Vegas area.

He went to Navy basic training in the fall after he graduated from high school, but joining the armed services was actually his back-up plan for his future, he said.

Originally, Johnson was thinking about going to college after high school, but after realizing that he would have to pay for all of the expenses, he thought maybe accruing some money first would be more beneficial, he said. He is glad that he joined the Navy instead, because being a Sailor has taught Johnson

many valuable life lessons.

After Johnson graduated from Recruit Training Command Great Lakes, Ill., in 2002, he attended the hospital corpsmen school there, he said. Upon completion of his military occupational specialty training, he was sent to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton for field corpsman training.

Johnson then received orders to 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, at Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii.

It was during his time spent with 2/3 that he partook in Operation Cobra Gold, and was eventually deployed to Afghanistan in June 2005.

While deployed, Johnson not only experienced some close calls, but performed many humanitarian missions for Afghanistan citizens, he said. During these missions, the medical staff treated anybody who sought first aid for anything from Cellulitis, and other bacterial infec-

See **JOHNSON** Page 10

An Armor Solution



Photo by Curt Lambert

Gary Morgan (Top), Cost Work Center 713, and Larry Lindley (Bottom), CWC 620, were presented with Eagle Awards for their solution to a Light Armored Vehicle A2 armor application problem. The invention is a metal step that will allow workers to have more stability while working on the upper portion of the LAV.

Work place violence guidance

By Col. Kenneth D. Enzor
MCLB Commanding Officer

As the Commander of MCLB Barstow, my most solemn duty is to do everything I can to ensure the health and safety of all MCLB personnel and residents. I am committed to do what is necessary and within my power to prevent and correct incidents of work place violence. Work place violence can range from verbally threatening another or challenging another to a fight, to sexually-related touching, to assaults. Recently, one employee seriously injured another employee over a work place dispute. I will use this incident to reemphasize my -- and Colonel Dalke's -- approach to this sort of incident.

Work place violence of any type, for any reason, will not be tolerated, period. Provoking words will not be tolerated. "Humorous" sexually suggestive

touching will not be tolerated. Fighting will not be tolerated. The United States Supreme Court has repeatedly made it clear that military installation commanders have "plenary" (complete) authority to order any person threatening the installation's good order and discipline removed from the installation -- either temporarily or permanently.

I want to be perfectly clear: Any person perpetrating work place violence will be "debarred" from this installation. Debarment is a separate process from employment discipline, and is not appealable to the courts. Potential perpetrators must understand that there is no right to enter MCLB for employment; it is a privilege which may be rescinded if the installation commander deems that an employee is a threat to the health and safety of the persons aboard the installation.



Col. Kenneth D. Enzor

Any employee who believes a situation may escalate to violence should immediately disengage from the matter. Supervisors must be alert to escalating situations and immediately act to diffuse them, or call MCLB police via 911 if the supervisor does not feel he or she can act safely. We all must be alert to deescalate tense situations before violence, or worse tragedy, results. Further guidance will follow.

Army sergeant ensures base food safe to consume

By **Lance Cpl. Josh Carmona**
Combat Correspondent

Every Tuesday through Saturday, patrons of the base commissary are treated to clean and good quality food. This is due to specially trained staff and high food regulations.

Army Sgt. Shawnda Daniels, veterinary food inspection specialist, is one of the specially trained staff that protects MCLB Barstow along with other military installations in the region.

Daniels enlisted in the Army on July 24, 2001, as a veterinary food inspection specialist on the recommendation from her recruiter.

"He said, 'You like food right?' and that's how I got my job," said Daniels, "It's a different job; we're like a secret part of the military."

Daniels said food inspection specialists make sure the food

that service members buy in the commissary is safe for everyone to eat.

The first part of her job on base is at the front gate. Daniels stands with the gate guard and checks every incoming food truck to make sure the food being delivered hasn't been manipulated. She said this is a new policy for all installations.

The second part of her job is to inspect all of the food served on the Nebo and Yermo sides of the base to include the commissary, Child Development Center, Seven Day Store, the Family Restaurant, Tees and Trees, Oasis Club, Yermo Exchange and Lanzer's Lounge.

Barstow has been Daniel's favorite duty station in her six years of Army service.

"They spoil me here, If I have a problem they take care of it right away. A lot different

from Fort Hood," said Daniels.

She served in Fort Hood, Texas, after completing her advanced individual training, following basic training. Her tough experiences on that post prepared her to do what she does now.

Temperature plays a very important role in Daniel's job on base.

"Temperature is very important, some bacteria can grow twice as much every hour," she said.

She said every complaint about the quality of food the commissary gets she investigates to find the cause.

She says sometimes people forget about temperatures and leave groceries in their car while running errands. These are the types of habits that make food spoil before it is supposed to.

She stresses the importance of the food preservation rule,

keeping cold foods below 40 F and hot foods above 140 F. Diseases like Listeria, Botulism, E-Coli and Salmonella can be spread if foods are not kept at proper temperature.

Cross contamination is another food danger Daniels tries to prevent, she said. Cross contamination is where bacteria from raw meats

contaminate vegetables or other finger foods, and could make someone very sick.

So the next time you're sipping down some lemonade at Tees and Trees golf course or snacking on some chicken strips at Lanzer's Lounge, know that Sgt. Daniels has personally ensured it was fit for your consumption.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Josh Carmona

Sgt. Shawnda Daniels, veterinary food inspection specialist, examines vegetables to ensure that they are safe to eat.

Base library names annual essay contest winner

By Lance Cpl. Josh Carmona
Combat Correspondent

The general misconception of the average high school student in today's society is not a pretty one. People usually think of an over-caffeinated, moody and lazy videogame addict.

Although the evening news is full of young people that break the law, oftentimes teens prove that they can go above and beyond what is expected of them.

Tyler Blanding, a 14-year-old 9th grader at Barstow High School, participated in a reading contest sponsored by the base library in January. Blanding said the contest required participants to read as many books as possible during the three months the competition was going on.

Not only were the competitors

required to read books on their level, they also had to write summaries about the books to ensure they understood what they were reading.

This was the second book contest ever that MCCS sponsored and was held by the base library.

Blanding won the competition by reading 12 books and completing 12 summaries.

While 12 books seems like a daunting task for some, Blanding also has advance placement high school classes that he balances along with duties at home.

Despite it all, he found time each day to read at least an hour a day to reach his goal.

He said his books consisted of mostly fantasy titles, the Harry Potter series written by J.K. Rowling and his favorite book A Series of Unfortunate Events by Lemony Snicket.

Blanding's parents, Chief Warrant

Officer Jason Blanding and his wife Tammy Blanding said they were extremely proud of him.

"He's always had an active interest in reading. When the contest started it gave him a little more incentive," said Chief Warrant Officer Blanding.

The contest is over, but for Blanding his education continues. He is slated to take a math course at Barstow Community College during the summer.

Blanding's favorite activities include playing team sports like basketball and hockey. He hopes one day though to study sports medicine, and eventually work for his favorite hockey team, the Detroit Redwings.

Blanding said because of everything he learned from reading, he would encourage others to participate the next time there was a reading contest.



Photo by Cpl. Nich R. Babb

Tyler Blanding, 14-year-old son of Chief Warrant Officer Jason and Tammy Blanding, expresses his exuberance after seeing the prizes given to him for winning a base library reading contest. Blanding read 12 books in three months to become the competition's champion.



By Cpl. Adam Johnston
Combat Correspondent

Around The Corps



Photo by Cpl. Shane S. Keller

Lance Cpl. Dustin L. Meadows, a combat engineer with Charlie Company, 4th Combat Engineer Battalion, 4th Marine Division, wades through the Euphrates River after searching an island for weapons caches.



Photo by Cpl. Adam Johnston

Cpl. Lowell B. Williams, an infantryman with the tactical recovery of aircraft and personnel platoon, Headquarters Company, Regimental Combat Team 2, keeps an eye out for anything suspicious during a recent security patrol.

Team Tank w

HIT, Iraq - Thirteen l
Upon receiving the con
grove. A police call, on

Leaving no stone unturned, the group is vigilant – looking behind every bush and blade of grass for anything unusual. Along the way, they find numerous candy wrappers and other pieces of litter. But rather than police-up the garbage, they simply disregard and keep on walking.

Why? Because on this particular day, picking up trash is the least of their worries. Needless to say, this counterinsurgency battle won't win itself.

Team Tank, which included Regimental Combat Team 2 Marines from various units, recently returned from a 36-hour operation approximately 10 km north of Hit, Iraq.

“Our objective was to disrupt any insurgent activity in the area,” said 1st Lt. Danny James, the executive officer of Alpha Company, 1st Tank Battalion, 1st Marine Division. “We achieved this by keeping the enemy on their heels through a series of offensive operations.”

Army Gen. David H. Petraeus, the commanding general of Multi-National Force- Iraq, recently discussed ongoing security operations in Iraq during a press briefing March 8.

“I should point out that although the focus, the priority, clearly is Baghdad,

any
cap
its
Ac
rin
rine
Re
cov
too
ion
do
“W
anc
wh
gin
4th
mo
sw
the
ons
nal
the
the
Jor
“Pe
bec
tree
cac
mo
ord
ma
fou
plo
not
sce
ord
it a
dur
wh
into
tac
this
the
per
the
kid
Pet

works together to keep Hit insurgent-free

Marines and one Navy corpsman stand shoulder-to-shoulder. In command, they spread out on-line and push forward into the palm grove of the Marine Corps' oldest traditions, is underway.

anyone who knows about securing the capital knows that you must also secure its surrounding areas," Petraeus said. According to James, the same theme rings true for the city of Hit.

Team Tank was comprised of Marines from: Mobile Assault Platoon, 4th Reconnaissance Battalion, Tactical Recovery of Aircraft and Personnel platoon and 4th Combat Engineer Battalion.

"Tanks are limited to what they can do by themselves," James explained. "We can't just blow every house apart and expect to win this fight. That's where the dismount teams come in."

Sgt. Nate W.R. Jones, a combat engineer with Bravo Company, 4th CEB, 4th Marine Division, was one of the dismounts for Team Tank.

Using metal detectors, his squad swept along the riverbanks and through the palm groves; searching for weapons caches and other illegal paraphernalia.

"Insurgents like to hide weapons by the river because it's easier to move them from one side to the other," said Jones, a native of West Chester, Pa. "Palm groves are also good hiding spots because, unlike the open desert, palm trees can mark the spot for any hidden caches."

As a direct result of the operation, more than 50 pieces of various-sized ordnance was uncovered. Though the majority of artillery and mortar rounds found contained no explosives, the Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit was still notified of the situation and brought on-scene to do what they do best.

"The enemy could easily re-pack the ordnance with (high explosives) and use it against us," Jones said. "Or they could lump it on the side of the road somewhere, using it to lure coalition forces into an (improvised explosive device) attack."

In addition to going after the enemy, his operation also gave one corpsman the opportunity for some hands-on experience in a real-life situation.

"After searching this house, one of the guys called me over to look at this kid with a nasty cut over his eye," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Michael J.



Photo by Cpl. Adam Johnston

Team Tank, which included Regimental Combat Team 2 Marines from various units, recently completed a 36-hour operation north of here. Together, they successfully disrupted insurgent activity in the area, as well as recovered numerous pieces of ordnance.

Fuchs, a corpsman with Alpha Company, 1st Tank Battalion. "It was pretty bad. There was all sorts of puss and nastiness coming from the wound."

Since arriving in-country October 2006, Fuchs hasn't been on many foot patrols. Much to his dismay, most of the tank operations to date have been sans dismounts.

"I cleaned the area, applied some antibiotics and re-dressed the wound," Fuchs said. "I also gave the parents some spare gauze to change the dressing with. If left unattended much longer, an injury like that could cost someone their eye."

Though he wished he could've gotten there sooner, Fuchs was just glad to do what he could to help.

"It's not like they've got Medicare or a health system over here," Fuchs said. "It's nice to be able to do my part – winning the hearts and minds. This is probably the best thing I've done the entire deployment."

According to James, the Team Tank concept is an old one. But it hasn't been used this tour as much as he would've liked.

Considering its effectiveness, James hopes to see more units jump on the Team Tank bandwagon in the near future.

"Teaming up with dismounts is equally beneficial for both sides involved,"

James said. "Through the sheer intimidation factor, tanks provide the dismounts with an unparalleled level of security. And on the flip side, the dismounts can do what tanks can't – interact with the locals and do detailed searches. It's a win-win situation for everyone."



Photo by Cpl. Adam Johnston

More than 50 pieces of various-sized ordnance, including these 82 mm mortar rounds below, were destroyed following a recent operation north of here. Team Tank, which included Regimental Combat Team 2 Marines from various units, successfully disrupted insurgent activity in the area.



Photo by Cpl. Adam Johnston

CHAPLAIN from Page 2

crew. He drank himself each night into a drunken stupor and he ridiculed the sailors who tried to do what was right with all sorts of profanity.

He even openly ridiculed a book he had found on board and confiscated it. The book was Thomas a Kempis' The Imitation of Christ. Openly, John continued his wicked ways, but in the privacy of his quarters he began to read the Christian classic.

On May 10, 1748, everything changed for John. It was during the dark morning hours that John had awoken to find his cabin flooded with seawater. The Greyhound had sailed into high seas and her side had collapsed in the turbulence.

This was one of the few times that the ship had not only slaves aboard but also a full load of cargo. The cargo was buoyant enough to buy the crew more time as they frantically raced to save the ship.

After nine hours at the pumps, John overheard a crewmember deem the cause hopeless. But, John was going to save his ship.

He continued his work and in a mo-

ment of desperation cried out in prayer, "If this will not do—the Lord have mercy on us!" The crew stopped and stood in amazement.

This was the first time the captain had used the Lord's name without a plethora profanities before or after it. John continued to work at the pumps and miraculously the Greyhound stayed afloat and was saved.

John continued to skipper the Greyhound, but he never forgot his prayer. Life changed aboard the ship, he no longer cussed or drank or lived the life that he formerly had. Finally, he became so convicted about the slave trade that when the ship returned to England, he made his way down the gangplank with his sea bag and never returned to the life of a sailor.

Instead he became a minister. He was ordained and began to pastor a church in Buckinghamshire, England.

But, one other thing John did was he began to write hymns. Perhaps the most famous hymn that he penned is the most famous of all time, for it was John Newton who penned these famous words:

"Amazing grace! (how sweet the sound) That sav'd a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears reliev'd;
How precious did that grace appear,
The hour I first believ'd!

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home."

JOHNSON from Page 4

tions, to open wounds.

After Johnson came back to the United States, he knew that his unit had made a difference in the war torn country, he said. The deployment lasted seven months, and the changes that he witnessed, including the vast improvement of the Afghanistan Special Forces, were many and highly noticeable.

There was still some work that had to be done by Johnson though, and in October 2006 he received orders to the high desert to work at the base medical clinic.

It was here where he further excelled while fulfilling his clinic duties, and stood out to his superiors, said Hospitalman 2nd Class Abdul Lozano, laboratory technician, branch medical clinic.

"HM3 Johnson is a great example for junior Sailors to emulate. He is eager to perform any task and duties assigned to him with great pride," Lozano said.

Johnson says that he is glad he joined the Navy, because he matured a lot. Now when he goes to college in a few months, he will take it more seriously.

He hopes to make his way over to the University of Nevada Las Vegas to study foreign languages and business, and then one day becoming an international businessman, he said. The languages he wants to learn include, Japanese, Russian and Spanish.

Johnson's experience as a sailor has been quite unique, but what stands out more is his commitment to duty and fellow service members, said Lozano. It is because of this type of personality that Johnson was most qualified to be named the SOQ.



Texas Hold' Em Poker

Congratulations to our new winners Bobby Smith 1st place, Robert Fournier 2nd Place, Jacinto Pasco 3rd Place, Julius Pasco 4th Place, Fitzpatrick Gutierrez 5th Place and Jeremiah Baca 6th Place.

Don't miss the next Texas Hold' Em Poker Tournament which will be held April 27. Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Oasis Club.

For more information or if you have any questions please contact 577-5893.

Active Parenting Classes

Marine and Family Services Division's Family Advocacy Program is hosting classes March 27, and April 3 and 6. Classes are from 10 a.m. to noon in the Base Library and are video-based inter-

active learning experiences. A comprehensive model of parenting for parents with children between the ages of 5 and 12 will be taught.

For more information contact Geniel Bratton at 577-6533, or stop in at Marine and Family Services Division, Building 129.

Smart Girl

Smart Girl is a health, fitness prevention/education and self-esteem enhancement program for girls ages 8 to 12. The program is designed to encourage healthy attitudes and lifestyles that will enable adolescent girls to develop to their full potential. Sessions incorporate learning experiences that include mentors, guest speakers, activities, and field trips. Smart Girl meets the first Friday of the month at

6 p.m. for dinner and the meeting.

For more information about the program, contact Aricia Phillips or Lori Allen, at 577-6617.

Family Dining

Tonight at the Oasis Club is Breaded Catfish Strips night, March 29 is Mongolian Barbecue Night. Remember to make Family Dining Night a traditional night out, and let us do the dishes.

For more information, contact the Oasis Club at 577-6432.

Torch Club

Torch Club, is a small group leadership development program, sponsored by Staples, and targeted to youngsters ages 11 to 13.

Torch Club members learn to work together to plan and implement activities in four areas: Service to club and community, education, health and fitness, and social recreation. Torch Club members identify club and community needs, by developing programs, activities, and actively participating in their community.

Above all, it gives young people a chance to contribute something of value to others. The Torch Club is currently working on a project collecting aluminum

cans and CRV recyclables to provide funding for their 2007 Christmas project. The Torch Club meets Thursday afternoons at 2 p.m. in the YAC.

For further information contact Aricia Phillips or Lori Allen at 577-6617.

LUNCH MENU

Family Restaurant

Today – Beef meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, and vegetables.

Friday – Breaded Hoki fish, macaroni and cheese and whole green beans.

Monday – Hot open-face turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetables plus cranberry sauce.

Tuesday – Sliced pork loin, gravy, jasmine rice and vegetables.

Wednesday – Beef tip noodles and vegetables.

Unless otherwise stated, a fresh roll and fountain drink is included with every meal.

Soup and Salad Bar - Now available for lunch, Monday through Thursday.

Sub Sandwiches - A variety of pre-made daily items are available in the front display refrigerator.

Lanzer's Lounge

Manager's Special featured daily.

MISC For Sale; Solid Wood Fire-place, ventless, Mahagony with at-tached book shelves, uses Jel Fuel, has logs and screen. Call: 253-5926

MISC Solid Wood Fireplace, ventless, Med Cherry with doors in side cabinet, has two matching book shelves. Uses Jel Fuel, has logs and screen. Call: 253-5926

MISC 32" LCD flat screen television, HDTV ready, stereo sound speak-ers. Call: 253-5926

MISC Two 17" computer monitors \$60 each. Call: 760-256-2434 or 760-784-4089.

MISC Gaffers and Statler Stove \$100 OBO as is. Gaffers and Statler Disherwasher \$100 OBO. Dining Room Table w/4 chairs, excellent condition \$100. Call 252-0294

TOY HAULER 2005 Eclipse Attitude Toy Hauler. 23 Ft., A/C, T.V./DVD, microwave, Fridge, 3 burner stove. Sleeps 6-8, with fuel tank. Take over payments. Call 253-2858.

MISC An Exercise Slim six DVD disc set available for \$45. Call Stacy at 253-2875.



